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1297.43787X00

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: TOI, et al.

Serial No.: 10/825,097

Filed: April 16, 2004

Title: AUTOMATIC LIQUID HANDLING SYSTEM

Art Unit: 1743

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 CFR 1.97 & 1.98

Mail Stop: DD
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

March 30, 2006

Sir:

In the matter of the above-identified application, applicants are submitting herewith a copy of a communication in connection with a corresponding foreign application, as well as an English translation thereof, and a copy of the non-US documents listed in the attached form equivalent to Form(s) PTO/SB/08A and/or PTO/SB/08B for the Examiner's consideration.

This information disclosure statement is being submitted before the mailing date of a first office action and the following certification specified in 37 CFR 1.97(e).

On information and belief, I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

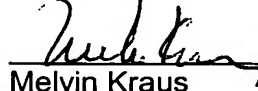
To the extent that the documents listed on the attached form equivalent to Form(s) PTO/SB/08A and/or PTO/SB/08B are not in the English language, the requirement of 37 CFR 1.98(a)(3) for a concise explanation of the relevance is satisfied by an English language translation of the foreign patent office report citing the documents and an English language Abstract of the document.

It is respectfully requested that this information disclosure statement and the documents listed be considered by the Examiner.

Please charge any shortage in the fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including excess claim fees, to Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (1297.43787X00), and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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Form PTO-1449
EquivalentU.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICEATTY. DKT. NO.
1297.43787X00SERIAL NO.
10/825,097INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
BY APPLICANT

(Use several sheets if necessary)

APPLICANT

TOI et al

FILING DATE
April 16, 2004GROUP
1743

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Ex. Initial	Doc. No.	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date
AA	6,238,626	5/01	Higuchi et al			
AB	5,141,871	8/92	Kureshy et al			
AC	5,273,717	12/93	Marvin			
AD						
AE						
AF						
AG						
AH						

U.S. PATENT APPLICATIONS

	Publication Number	Name	Publication Date
AI	2003/0075556	Tajima et al	4/03
AJ	2002/0108857	Paschetto et al	8/02
AK			
AL			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	Doc. No.	Date	Country	Class	Subclass	Translation/Abstract?	
						Yes	No
AM	0 114 686	8/84	Europe				
AN	2001-59848	3/01	Japan			Abstract	
AO							
AP							
AQ							

OTHER DOCUMENTS

AR	
AS	
AT	
Examiner	
Date Considered	